



Aquifer Protection

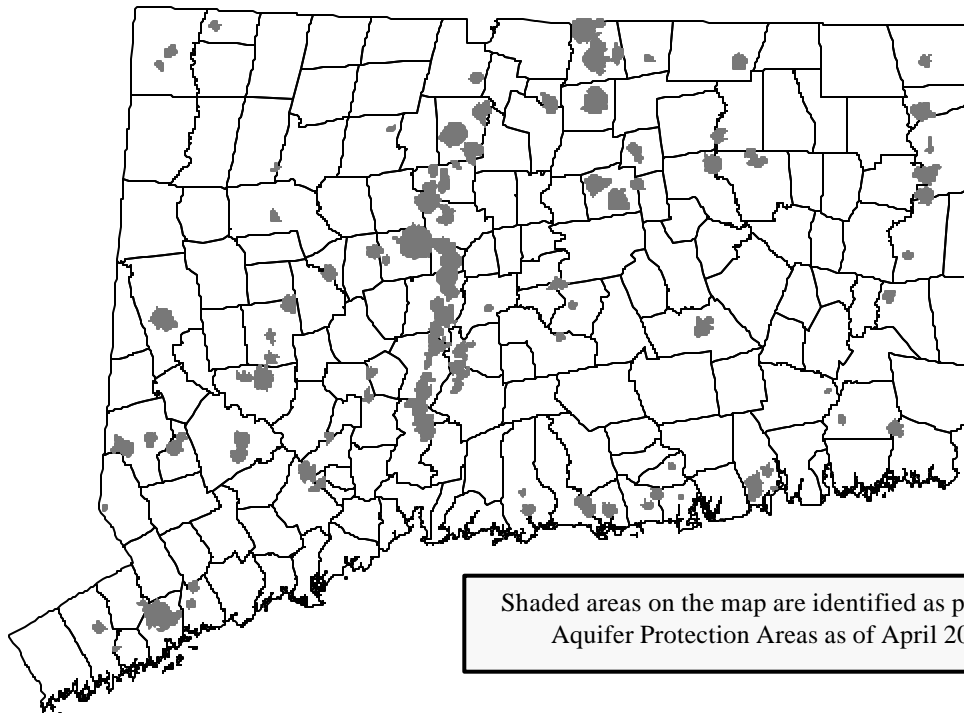
Potential Environmental Impacts

Most vehicle service facilities use petroleum products and also may have hazardous materials and/or wastes. These substances pose a threat to the drinking water supply if improperly stored or handled. Connecticut's Aquifer Protection Program was developed to protect major public water supply wells to ensure a plentiful supply of public drinking water for present and future generations.

Aquifer Protection Areas (sometimes referred to as "wellhead protection areas") will be designated around the state's 122 active well fields in sand and gravel aquifers that serve more than 1000 people. Land use controls, which will include requirements for existing facilities, will be imposed in those areas to minimize the potential for contamination of the well field. Preliminary mapping indicates that 82 towns will have aquifer protection areas designated for existing wells (see the listing and map below). Eventually, additional protection areas will be designated for sites of future wells.

Municipalities with Proposed Aquifer Protection Areas

Avon, Beacon Falls, Berlin, Bethany, Bethel, Bethlehem, Bolton, Bristol, Brooklyn, Burlington, Canton, Cheshire, Clinton, Colchester, Coventry, Cromwell, Danbury, Darien, Derby, East Lyme, East Windsor, Enfield, Essex, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Goshen, Guilford, Griswold, Hamden, Killingly, Killingworth, Ledyard, Litchfield, Madison, Manchester, Mansfield, Meriden, Middletown, Montville, Naugatuck, New Canaan, New Hartford, New Milford, Newtown, North Canaan, North Haven, Norwalk, Old Saybrook, Oxford, Plainfield, Plainville, Plymouth, Portland, Prospect, Putnam, Ridgefield, Rocky Hill, Salisbury, Seymour, Shelton, Simsbury, Somers, Southbury, Southington, Stafford, Stamford, Stonington, Thomaston, Thompson, Tolland, Torrington, Vernon, Wallingford, Watertown, Westbrook, Weston, Westport, Willington, Windsor, Windsor Locks, Woodbury



Shaded areas on the map are identified as proposed
Aquifer Protection Areas as of April 2004

Legal Requirements

- ◆ Once the Aquifer Protection Areas are formally designated, existing businesses will be notified by the CT-DEP or the municipality. If your vehicle service facility is in one of these affected areas, you will have to comply with the legal requirements listed below [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-1 through 10]:
 - Register with the DEP and/or municipality within 180 days of the Aquifer Protection Area designation [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-7]. Existing facilities are “grandfathered” into the program, if they are registered. It is therefore important for existing facilities to register. Note: New vehicle service facilities are prohibited from locating in Aquifer Protection Areas [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-5(a)].
 - Registrations must be renewed every five years, and transfer of the registration to a new owner is allowed [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-7(g)].
 - Obtain a permit to add a regulated activity to a registered facility [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-8]. For example, if an existing vehicle repair facility wanted to add car washing, an aquifer protection permit for the car wash would be needed. The CT-DEP or the municipality will issue permits for a ten-year period. Permits may be renewed, or transferred to another owner [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-8(g) and (i)].
 - Registered and permitted facilities must certify compliance with the Best Management Practices outlined in the regulations [RCSA Sec. 22a-354i-9]. For instance, hazardous materials must be stored inside a building or under a roofed area and a materials management plan must be developed and implemented at the facility.

For more information, contact the CT DEP’s Aquifer Protection Area Program at (860) 424-3020 or visit the web site at www.dep.state.ct.us/wtr/aquiferprotection/index.htm.



Did you know?

Clean water is vital for our very survival. Until recently, people assumed that it would always be plentiful in Connecticut. The events of the past decade have shown that groundwater, like surface water, is increasingly at risk from our chemical-dependent society.

2004 Pit Stops Fact Sheets

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Office of Pollution Prevention (860) 424-3297 www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/vehicle/abindex.htm
Fact Sheet: DEP-P2-PITSTOPS-FS-002

Last Updated: August, 2004